SPECIAL CENTER NOTICE

CLASSIFICATION OF TALENT AND KEYHOLE INFORMATION

GENERAL

1. The purpose of this notice is to provide guidance for the classification in the Special Center of documents containing photographic and SIGINT products from sensitive manned overflight reconnaissance and from satellite reconnaissance. (The classification of information concerning collection operations is a separate matter not covered by this instruction.)

DEFINITIONS

2. TALENT material is the product obtained from U.S. reconnaissance operations from sensitive manned aircraft overflights.

3. KEYHOLE material is the product obtained from U.S. reconnaissance operations from satellites.

CODEWORDS

4. Code Words currently in use include [redacted] for TALENT material, RUFF for KEYHOLE photographic interpretation material and [redacted] for KEYHOLE SIGINT material.

HOW TO CLASSIFY

5. KEYHOLE associated material may vary in classification from TOP SECRET Codeword to SECRET. To assist in such determination, classification guidance is provided below:

a. TOP SECRET RUFF-HANDLE VIA TALENT-KEYHOLE CONTROL CHANNELS - is the classification given to KEYHOLE photographs intended for interpretation and to intelligence derived from, or based on, those photographs. Examples are:

(1) KEYHOLE photographs and analyses of the photographs,

(2) KEYHOLE Target Lists and KEYHOLE Requirements Lists.
(3) Listings of KEYHOLE documents which include full titles (e.g., TCS 0000-64-KH).

(4) Mention of the value of KEYHOLE material in any intelligence field or concerning a specific country in terms whereby the resolution of the photography may be estimated.

b. **TOP SECRET HANDLE VIA TALENT-KEYHOLE CONTROL CHANNELS** - is the classification given to KEYHOLE SIGINT material (COMINT Codewords and the control channel caveat "HANDLE VIA COMINT-TALENT-KEYHOLE CONTROL CHANNELS JOINTLY" are included when appropriate). Examples are:

(1) KEYHOLE SIGINT intercept material.

(2) KEYHOLE SIGINT Target Lists and KEYHOLE SIGINT Requirements Lists.

(3) Listing of KEYHOLE SIGINT documents which include full titles.

(4) Mention of the value of KEYHOLE SIGINT material, in any intelligence field or concerning a specific country, in terms whereby the usefulness of the material is revealed.

c. **TOP SECRET-HANDLE VIA TALENT-KEYHOLE CONTROL CHANNELS** - is the classification given to documents which refer in some detail to KEYHOLE materials, but include no substantive information from KEYHOLE. An example is:
d. **SECRET-HANDLE VIA TALENT-KEYHOLE CONTROL CHANNELS** - is the classification given to administrative papers which refer to KEYHOLE materials, but do not reveal the nature of the intelligence source or the geographic area from which the material was obtained. Examples are:

1. A request for a KEYHOLE clearance.

e. **SECRET-HANDLE VIA SPECIAL CENTER CHANNELS** - is the classification given to internal DDI Special Center administrative documents which pertain to KEYHOLE intelligence, but do not reveal the nature of the intelligence source or the geographic area from which the material was obtained. The term "KH Material" will be used in place of the word "KEYHOLE,"

f. Receipts for KEYHOLE materials must be returned via TALENT-KEYHOLE channels, but may be unclassified if no descriptive information is included other than the TCS-KH control number.

**HOW TO CLASSIFY TALENT MATERIAL**

6. Paragraph 4. a. - e. apply generally to TALENT material when "TALENT" is substituted for "KEYHOLE" and "RUFF" is substituted for "KH."

7. **CAUTION** - This notice is intended to serve only as a general guide. Assistance in classifying a document may be obtained from Office TALENT Control Officers and from the Special Center TALENT Control Officer. It is suggested that individuals engaged in classifying documents err on the side of caution and check on a case-by-case basis until experience has been gained.

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Chief, Special Intelligence Staff, DD/I

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